

The Highland Council

**Skye, Ross and Cromarty Area Committee
18 November 2015**

Agenda Item	11
Report No	SRC/059/15

Skye and Lochalsh Local Access Forum Membership

Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure

Summary

Following a resignation from the Skye and Lochalsh Local Access Forum, this report provides Members with the opportunity to homologate the decision made by the Eilean a' Cheò elected Members at the Ward Business Meeting on Tuesday 13 October 2015 and to approve the appointment of one new Forum member to create a more representative Local Access Forum.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Skye and Lochalsh Local Access Forum was formed on 11 April 2005 in response to the requirements of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and is one of six Local Access Fora in the Highland Council area.
- 1.2 Local Access Forums advise the Highland Council on: countryside access issues, and provide assistance in any dispute resolution in relation to the exercise of access rights; the delineation and existence of rights of way; and the drawing up of core paths plans. The forums also have the facility to form sub groups to carry out specific investigations or to co-opt specialist advisers.
- 1.3 The maximum number of forum members is 9 plus 2 Councillors. Access forums must have a balanced representation with 3 nominees selected from each of the following categories:
 - Land managers – estate owners, farmers, crofters, foresters
 - Access users – walkers, cyclists, horse riders, canoeists
 - Community groups – community councils, environmental organisations, local path development groups

The Council appoints members to the forum.

- 1.4 Members of the Forum are entitled to claim travel and out of pocket expenses from the Access budget in the Development and Infrastructure Service.

2. Approval for New Member

2.1 Recent resignations from the Forum have created the following vacancy:

- Community Group – 1

2.2 The following has been nominated to fill this place:

- Alistair Danter – Nominated by the Edinbane Community Company

This application to join the Skye and Lochalsh Access Forum was discussed and approved by the Eilean a' Cheò Elected Members at the Ward Business Meeting on Tuesday 13 October. Committee is requested to homologate this decision.

3. Implications

3.1 Resource – Funding from within existing resources.

3.2 Legal - None

3.3 Equalities – Membership of the forum is open to all those who qualify for one of the three membership categories.

3.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever – Forum members are encouraged to share transport to meetings and when site meetings are necessary an appropriate vehicle is hired to transport all Forum members to the site.

3.5 Risk – None.

Recommendation

Members are asked to homologate the decision of the Eilean a' Cheò Ward Forum to approve the appointment of one new Forum member to the Skye and Lochalsh Local Access Forum.

Designation: Countryside Ranger and Long Distance Route Manager

Date: 26 October 2015

Author: George Duff, Countryside Ranger and Long Distance Route Manager

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

NOMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

NOTE: Before filling in this form, please read the accompanying notes for guidance.

A. APPLICANT DETAILS

NAME	Alistair Danter
ADDRESS	[REDACTED]
CONTACT TEL NO.	[REDACTED]
E:MAIL ADDRESS	[REDACTED]
LOCATION OF FORUM APPLIED FOR (e.g. Inverness, Lochaber)	Skye & Lochalsh
CATEGORY OF REPRESENTATION (e.g. land owner, access user, community group etc)	Community Group –
ORGANISATION DETAILS/RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT	Edinbane Community Co.
DETAILS OF ANY PREVIOUS PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS?	Current position is Area Business Manager – Business Gateway

PTO

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO:

Access Team, Planning & Development Service, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX e:mail access@highland.gov.uk

B. SKILLS/ABILITIES RELEVANT TO THE POST:

Please outline below how you believe you will be able to contribute to the work of a Local Access Forum (in approximately 200 words) Please continue on a separate sheet if needed.

I have a back ground training and work experience in rural development / rural economy. I have a croft and in addition a croft based tourist enterprise – 2 self catering cottages. I am very aware of the range of interests that exist in matters related to rural development, I have experience of negotiation and developing strategies to accommodate a range of views, users and stakeholders. I have a strong interest in access for walkers and horse riders.

C. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

.....Alistair Danter..... Date
.....29th Jan '15.....

D. ENDORSEMENT BY OFFICE BEARER OF SUPPORTING ORGANISATION (if applicable)

..... Date